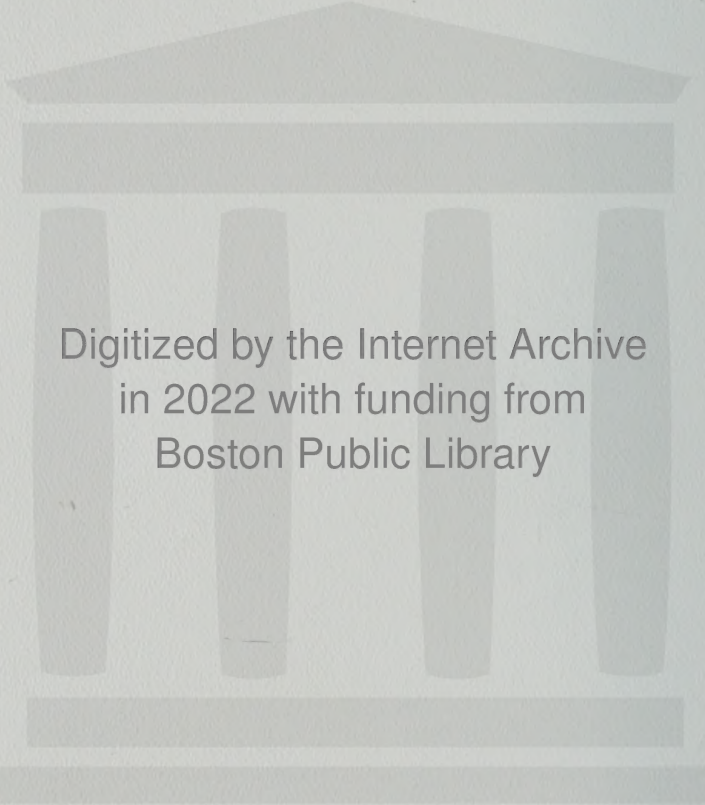




**BLACK
IS...
1987**



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BLACK IS...

1987

The 1987 edition of Black Is... continues the tradition of the Boston Public Library's celebration of Black History Month in February of each year.

This selected list was compiled by Catherine Clancy, General Library, Young Adult Room; Fran Grosso, General Library; Olive Knight, Connolly Branch Library; Elaine McLean, Codman Square Branch Library; and Lois Henry, General Library, Chairperson.

FICTION

Almost Midnight

Don Belton

Some women curse, others praise the memory of "Daddy" Poole, former millionaire, preacher, drug pusher, and pimp.

The Berhama Account

John A. Williams

Violence and political dealings in the tropics.

A Case of Rape

Chester Himes

Why do four Black men refuse to defend themselves against charges of raping and murdering a white American woman in Paris?

The Case of the Ashanti Gold: A Joe Cinquez Mystery

Clifford Mason

A Black private detective, seven murders, a golden stool, and African royalty.

***Clara's Heart**

Joseph Olshan

For David, Mother is the family's Jamaican maid.

Dancers on the Shore

William Melvin Kelley

Stories of swimming against the tide in American society.

***The Final Passage**

Caryl Phillips

Will Leila find happiness in her desperate flight from the West Indies to England?

De Mojo Blues: De Quest of HighJohn de Conqueror

A.R. Flowers

A Vietnam veteran helps his war buddies attain power and success with "hoodoo."

**Also for young adults*

***The Great Thirst**

William Duggan

The legend of Mojamaje, "Eater of Rocks."

***The Master of the Forge: A West African Odyssey**

Harold Courlander

A magical epic of sorcery and adventure in the Sudan.

***My Love, My Love: Or the Peasant Girl**

Rosa Guy

A fable of an island girl's shattered dreams.

Poppie Nongena

Elsa Joubert

An apolitical woman fights to keep her family together under apartheid in South Africa.

Reckless Eyeballing

Ishmael Reed

Does feminist literature conspire against the Black male writer?

***Steal Away, Steal Away Home**

Hays Rockwell

The first Black student at a prestigious prep school releases pent up frustrations in a heinous crime.

***Sudie**

Sara Flanigan

A small southern town misunderstands the friendship between a Black man and a ten-year-old white girl.

***A Trumpet Sounds: A Novel Based on the Life of Roland Hayes**

Eunice Young Smith

The View from Coyaba

Peter Abrahams

A Jamaican family saga.

When Women Rule

Austin Clarke

The West Indian struggle in Canada is portrayed in short stories.

Whites: Stories

Norman Rush

Contradictions in the "new" Africa.

PERSONALITIES

***All God's Children Need Traveling Shoes**

Maya Angelou

A famous writer recounts her awakening from idyllic ancestral dreams to the realities of an American Black going home to Africa.

***Bessie Smith**

Elaine Feinstein

Her life paralleled the frenzied twenties and the depressed thirties.

***Cosby**

Ronald L. Smith

At sixteen, a tenth grade dropout; at thirty-nine, a Doctor of Education.

Black Eagle: General Daniel "Chappie" James, Jr.

James R. McGovern

Raised to be "the best," he became America's first Black four-star general.

***Champion: Joe Louis, Black Hero in White America**

Christopher Mead

Joe Louis' fight for acceptance in and out of the ring.

Capitol Hill in Black and White

Robert Parker with Richard Rashke

"Revelations of the Inside — and Underside — of power politics by the Black former maitre d' of the Senate Dining Room."

Diahann: An Autobiography

Diahann Carroll with Ross Firestone

"I have had my ups, a lot of downs...all I ever wanted to do was sing. What happened was more."

Every Day: The Story of Joe Williams

Leslie Gourse

The professional and private life of the singer named "Best Male Vocalist" by *Downbeat* magazine every year from 1974 to 1984.

George Washington Williams: A Biography

John Hope Franklin

Barely literate at twenty-five, by thirty-five he had been a soldier, a minister, an editor, a publisher, a state legislator, a diplomat, and had written the first scholarly history of American Blacks.

Good Morning Blues: The Autobiography of Count Basie

Count Basie as told to Albert Murray

Five decades of jazz history — told by a jazz great.

***Hearing the Noise: My Life in the NFL**

Preston Pearson

Don Shula launched him from college basketball to a fourteen-year career with the Colts, the Steelers, and the Cowboys.

The Hornes: An American Family

Gail Lumet Buckley

Lena's daughter portrays the world of the Black bourgeoisie.

***I, Tina**

Tina Turner with Kurt Loder

Savagery, survival, superstardom.

Jesse Owens: An American Life

William J. Baker

King Remembered

Flip Schulke and Penelope Ortner McPhee

A tribute from men and women influenced by the man and his dream.

***Lionel Richie**

Roberta Plutznik

The man "Can't Slow Down."

***Martin Luther King, Jr. ...To the Mountaintop**

William Roger Witherspoon

This commemorative pictorial history blends the facts and feelings of the civil rights movement.

The Mind of Frederick Douglass

Waldo E. Martin, Jr.

"It is too late to do much to improve my relation to the public. I shall never get beyond Frederick Douglass the educated fugitive slave."

Nisa: The Life and Words of a !Kung Woman

Marjorie Shostak

Foraging in the Kalahari Desert.

***Quincy Jones**

Raymond Horricks

The guiding force behind "Thriller" and "We Are the World" is a true Renaissance man of music.

**Recorder of the Black Experience: A Biography of
Monroe Nathan Work**

Philosophically between W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington, the compiler of the *Negro Year Book* believed scholarship was the key to eradicating prejudice.

William Hastie: Grace under Pressure

Gilbert Ware

This NAACP lawyer won the Supreme Court decision that ended Jim Crow seating on interstate carriers.

***Winnie Mandela**

Nancy Harrison

The mother of Black South African protest.

**With Louis and the Duke: The Autobiography of a
Jazz Clarinetist**

Barney Bigard

Reminiscences of the Big Band Era.

You May Plow Here: The Narrative of Sara Brooks

Edited by Thordis Simonsen

The simple pleasures and carefree innocence of youth in the rural South of the 1920's.

BLACK EXPRESSIONS

Black Popular Music in America: From the Spirituals, Minstrels and Ragtime to Soul, Disco, and Hip-Hop

Arnold Shaw

Collected Poems 1948-1984

Derek Walcott

Conjuring: Black Women, Fiction, and Literary Tradition

Marjorie Pryse and Hortense J. Spillers, Editors

From slave narratives to Alice Walker — Black women writers on Black women writers.

Going to the Territory

Ralph Ellison

On American art and society, 1957-1980.

Healing Song

Michael S. Harper

Poems of music, anger, and grace.

Jimmy's Blues: Selected Poems

James Baldwin

The Life of Langston Hughes. Volume 1: I, Too, Sing America, 1902-1941

Arnold Rampersad

Ma Chance's French Caribbean Creole Cooking

Jeanne Louise Duzant Chance

From Calaloo soup to almond candy.

***Motown: Hot Wax, City Cool and Solid Gold**

J. Randy Taraborrelli

Photos and anecdotes from a Motown fan.

On Wings Made of Gauze

Nikky Finney

Feminist poems in a new voice.

The Poetry and Poetics of Amiri Baraka: The Jazz Aesthetic

William J. Harris

His angry voice modernized Black poetry.

Sets, Series & Ensembles in African Art

George Nelson Preston

Sculptures in their ritual and tribal contexts.

Sin: Poems

David Wojahn

Meditations on power.

Sweet Soul Music

Peter Guralnick

Remember Louie's Showcase Lounge, the Donnelly Theater,
and how Skippy White got his name?

**Swing to Bop: An Oral History of the Transition in Jazz in
the 1940s**

Ira Gitler

Viewfinders: Black Women Photographers, 1839-1985

Jeanne Moutoussamy-Ashe

Their lives and works.

***Where Did Our Love Go? The Rise and Fall of the
Motown Sound**

The family business that created "the" sound.

**A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings of
Martin Luther King, Jr.**

Edited by James Melvin Washington

INTERNATIONAL SCENE

The Africans: A Triple Heritage

Ali A. Mazrui

This lavishly illustrated companion to the controversial
PBS series shows how the West was wrong.

Kaffir Boy: The True Story of a Black Youth's Coming of Age in Apartheid South Africa

Mark Mathabane

To stay, to fight, to flee: one man's dilemma.

Move Your Shadow: South Africa, Black and White

Joseph Lelyveld

A Pulitzer Prize-winning probe of people and politics under apartheid.

Redemption Song: The Story of Operation Moses

Louis Rapoport

The airlift of famine-stricken Falasha Jews out of Ethiopia.

The Serpent and the Rainbow

Wade Davis

Zombi drug discovered in Haitian secret societies.

***Worlds of a Masai Warrior: An Autobiography**

Tepilit Ole Saitoti

From herding cattle in Kenya to college life in America: culture shock.

CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

Black American Politics: From the Washington Marches to Jesse Jackson

Manning Marable

***Fatherhood**

Bill Cosby

Anecdotes, vignettes, and homespun philosophy in the unique Cosby style.

Grenada: An Eyewitness Account of the U.S. Invasion and the Caribbean History That Provoked It.

Hugh O'Shaughnessy

The Jesse Jackson Phenomenon: The Crisis of Purpose in Afro-American Politics

Adolph L. Reed, Jr.

Strategies for Black political action.

Swann's Way: The School Busing Case and the Supreme Court

Bernard Schwartz

The landmark case.

HISTORY

Ar'n't I a Woman? Female Slaves in the Plantation South

Deborah Gray White

**Black and Red: W.E.B. DuBois and the Afro-American
Response to the Cold War, 1944-1963**

Gerald Horne

**Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation,
1861-1867.**

Ira Berlin

**Haile Selassie's War: The Italian-Ethiopian Campaign,
1935-1941**

Anthony Mockler

**In Pursuit of Power: Southern Blacks and Electoral Politics,
1965-1982**

Steven Lawson

**On the Threshold of Freedom: Masters and Slaves in
Civil War Georgia**

Clarence L. Mohr

**Once They Were Eagles: The Men of the
Black Sheep Squadron**

Frank E. Walton

**A Question of Sedition: The Federal Government's
Investigation of the Black Press during World War II.**

Patrick S. Washburn

**Reaping the Whirlwind: The Civil Rights Movement
in Tuskegee**

Robert J. Norrell

**Standing at the Crossroads: Southern Life in the
Twentieth Century**

Pete Daniel

Strength for the Fight: A History of Black Americans in the Military

Bernard C. Nalty

***The Triple Nickles: America's First All-Black Paratroop Unit**

Bradley Biggs

The World of Marcus Garvey: Race and Class in Modern Society

Judith Stein

BLACK CLASSICS

Another Country

James Baldwin

***The Autobiography of Malcolm X**

With the assistance of Alex Haley

***The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman**

Ernest Gaines

***Before the Mayflower: A History of Black America**

Lerone Bennett

Black Moses

Edmund David Cronon

***Black Voices: An Anthology of Afro-American Literature**

Abraham Chapman, ed.

Black Women in White America; A Documentary History

Gerda Lerner

***Black-Eyed Susans: Classic Stories by and about Black Women**

Mary Helen Washington, ed.

The Fire Next Time

James Baldwin

***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**

Maya Angelou

***Invisible Man**

Ralph Ellison

The Man Who Cried I Am

John A. Williams

***Manchild in the Promised Land**

Claude Brown

***Midnight Birds: Stories by Contemporary
Black Women Writers**

Mary Helen Washington, ed.

***Native Son**

Richard Wright

***A Raisin in the Sun**

Lorraine Hansberry

***Roots**

Alex Haley

Song of Solomon

Toni Morrison

The Souls of Black Folk

William E.B. DuBois

***Stride Toward Freedom**

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Things Fall Apart

Chinua Achebe

***To Be Young, Gifted and Black**

Lorraine Hansberry

***Up from Slavery**

Booker T. Washington

The Wretched of the Earth

Frantz Fanon



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